

BACK TO SCHOOL

Coming Wednesday: Returning to class during COVID.



BIDEN TO BROWARD SCHOOLS: I SUPPORT YOUR MASK POLICY

President Joe Biden calls the Broward superintendent and vows to replace any state money taken away, Page 17A



VOL. 118
NO. 335
\$3.99



MIAMIHERALD.COM

SUNDAY AUGUST 15, 2021

Miami Herald

TRAGEDY IN HAITI

HUNDREDS DEAD AFTER QUAKE ROCKS HAITI; TOLL LIKELY TO GROW



HAITI HIT AGAIN



WATCH

Video shows damage in Aux Cayes.

Scene in Les Cayes in Southwest Haiti after an earthquake struck on Saturday.

JEAN RONALD JOCELYN / HOPE FOR HAITI Special to the Miami Herald

MIAMI HAITIANS IN SHOCK

South Florida's Haitian-American community reacts to the tragedy in Haiti, the latest in a long line of painful events. 7A

REMINISCENT OF 2010

The events of the day in Haiti recall the January 2010 earthquake, whose death toll topped 300,000. 6A

THE TRAGEDY IN PHOTOS

Images from the scene in the southwest region of Haiti depict widespread devastation, death and suffering. 8A

RISE UP, SOUTH FLORIDA

Miami Herald Editorial Board calls on local community to step up giving and other aid, like it always has. 9A



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Cloudy with a stray thunderstorm
88°/80° See 30A



TRAVEL

AFRICA



Elephant family gather at the Chobe river, Botswana.

STEVE HAGGERTY ColorWorld/TNS

How to plan for your PICTURE-PERFECT SAFARI

BY ANNE Z. COOKE

Tribune News Service

MAUN, BOTSWANA

"Look, look, she's standing up. No, she's coming over here," whispered my nephew Eric, turning pale and clutching my hand as the lioness we'd been watching — one of 11 dozing under a tree — stood up, yawned and ambled in our direction.

"Take a picture, take a picture," urged his sister, Sarah, next to my husband in the Land Rover's rear seat. Fearless, eager for adventure, she leaned forward for a better look.

"Sit still, sit very still and watch. They are only curious," said Moro, our tracker at Shinde Game Lodge, who had moved from his seat on the fender to a seat in the car. "You are fortunate to see such a big pride, so healthy. If they aren't strong enough to hunt, they starve."

My family, traveling together on an African safari, were lucky indeed to see so many lions. Fifty years ago there were 200,000 in Africa; today there are fewer than 15,000. As for African elephants, their numbers are worse. Ninety years ago there were an estimated 10 million on the continent, but four years ago there were just 350,000.

Poaching for skins or meat, habitat loss and conflicts with farmers are the killers. But in recent years, a handful of Africa's 54 countries have realized that wildlife has value, for tourism if not for cultural or ecological reasons. Parks and preserves are saving savannas and forests, and wildlife conservation is taught in school. But success is still a question.

Which is why my husband and I decided to treat our

family to an African safari in Botswana, South Africa and Zambia, three countries where wildlife conservation is at the center of public policy. We wanted the kids to experience the African bush while there's still time.

If you've been thinking about going yourself, you are sure to have questions. Is African travel safe? Which countries have the most wildlife? What are game lodges like, and how do they find animals? Do you stay in a tent, or in a lodge, and do they have bathrooms? What about visas, clothes, the weather? Where can you learn about game lodges and safaris?

Since most safari lodges now have websites, comparing them is easy. Treat yourself to a leisurely tour through Uyaphi.com and Go2Africa.com, travel and touring companies that book family, individual, group and customized safaris. The websites are a treasure trove of photographs. Descriptions include locations, indoor and outdoor areas, gardens, views and extras, from mokoro (canoe) rides to spas and swimming pools. Prices per-person per-night vary widely because they include not just full-service game lodges but area hotel rooms. When you find something you like, search the site for an email contact. The person who gets back to you can answer questions, create a plan and make reservations.

5:45 a.m. — You've slept your first night at your African game lodge, which serves as your home base, when a staffer knocks with a wake-up cup of tea and toast. Dressing in your khaki-colored shorts, shirt and hat (laundry is done every other day, no charge, so two changes are enough), you rush over to the main lodge. Your guide and tracker — and fellow guests — are waiting at the car, an open-top Land Rover, ready for the morning's four-hour drive in search of lions, elephants, giraffes and antelope. A half-way

SEE SAFARI, 11D

Our guide says this giraffe is about to give birth.



STEVE HAGGERTY TNS

FROM PAGE 9D
SAFARI

stop includes a delicious breakfast treat.
10:30 a.m. - As the sun rises in the sky and the animals seek shade, the group returns to the lodge. This is your free time to join a guided walk, enjoy lunch, write in your diary, visit the gift shop or crash for a nap.

4:30 p.m. - Changing into long pants and a light jacket, and adding a coating of mosquito repellent, you join the afternoon drive. As the sun begins to sink, male lions awake and stretch, leopards come down out of the trees and antelope move closer together. At 6 p.m. the guides park for a "sundowner" stop, toasting with wine, gin-and-tonics, crackers and cheese. A male lion roars and you shiver down to your toes. A second lion answers. Down at the waterhole a thousand frogs sing at top volume, an unearthly chorus. If a leopard appears, you'll follow it.

8 p.m. - Back at the lodge, with shirt changed and hair combed, you gather for a four-course dinner with wine, a feast usually served at long tables. The guests, numbering from eight to 24, tell



Jason Mwanza, on the Bilimungwe Lodge kitchen staff, serves sundowners at the South Luangwa River. Bushcamp Company game lodges, Mfuwe, Zambia.



Mokoro (canoe) tours are popular with guests at Kanana Camp.

PHOTOS BY STEVE HAGGERTY ColorWorld/TNS

and retell of their adventures and each new sighting.

10:30 p.m. - Bedtime, but because it's dark out, an armed guide escorts you back to your cabin. He will remind you now and every night, NEVER, EVER walk alone in the dark without an escort. Once in your cabin, stay inside until morning. If you hear huffing or rustling it's animals prowling through the camp, curious and probably hungry. Guests have been killed walking alone.

My Botswana favorites, all in the Okavango Delta, are traditional lodges with eight to 10 spacious tent cabins bolted onto wood decks, per conservation regulations. Shinde is close to water and open plains; Kanana, near water, adds mokoro (canoe rides) to birding islands. Chiefs' Camp and Stanley's Camp explore a mix of wooded islands and surrounding lagoons.

In Kruger National Park, my favorite is Londolozi (www.londolozi.com), highly rated and a senti-



Tent No. 8 is bolted to a raised wood deck at Shinde Camp, Okavango Delta, Botswana.

mental destination. Now enlarged and divided into four different lodges, it remains true to its origins as the country's first leopard conservation project.

In the Sabi Sands Preserve, also in Kruger National Park, Bush Camp (www.sabisabi.com) is a big, lively lodge that would fit best in the resort category. It has 25 luxury suites and is an ideal place to meet other travelers and

their children. Activities include daily game drives, cultural community visits, swimming pools, a spa, an exercise gym, a child-care play center, a gift shop, and a waterhole near the dining room, where guests sip tea as the elephants come to drink.

In Zambia, the Bushcamp Company Group, in South Luangwa River National Park, is unique (www.BushcampCompa-

ny.com). The main lodge, with an open-air lounge, casual restaurant and 12 adjacent cabins, is a 30-minute drive from Mfuwe town, thus a handy getaway for passing travelers and area residents who come to watch the elephants that walk through the lobby. More importantly, this is headquarters for eight distant lodges, intimate, isolated and rustic hideaways sleeping no more than eight. At cozy Bilimungwe, you'll meet the elephant family. At Chamilandu you can spend a morning up in the "Hide," as it's called, waiting for the parade of animals that comes daily to drink.

Not only do these countries have many animals, but they use 4x4 vehicles with open tops and bench seats for game drives. Open-air seats allow unimpeded views and better photography while sitting. In East Africa (Tanzania, Uganda and Kenya) most parks permit only minivans or enclosed cars with open tops, limiting viewing.

It's possible to book your own plane flights, game lodge reservations and ground connections. But many North American travelers would rather spend more for a trip they can plan on the phone with an experienced representative from a full-service tour company. It's a relief when a local employee meets you upon arrival, helps with luggage, drives to your hotel or lodge, drives you to the next day's lodge or flight, and helps with visas, customs and local money.

A partial list of top-rated companies includes Sanctuary Retreats (www.Sanctuaryretreats.com); Ker & Downey (www.Ker-downeyafrica.com); Wilderness Safaris (www.Wilderness-Safaris.com); Bushcamp Company in Zambia (www.BushcampCompany.com); Abercrombie & Kent (www.Abercrombie&Kent.com); and Sabi-Sabi Company (www.Sabisabi.com).

If you are flight-hopping between game lodges, remember that light high-wing planes enforce space and weight restrictions. Pack light, no more than you can fit into a 36-by-18-inch duffel, plus a carry-on for your camera, money, passport, medications and toiletries.

Mosquitoes carry malaria but are rarely a threat during Southern Africa's dry months, from July to mid-October. Prevent bites with light-colored or khaki long-sleeve shirts and long pants and insect repellent. Or use a prophylactic drug from your doctor. We recommend travel and medical insurance, including emergency evacuation back to South Africa.

June through August (winter) are dry months, with chilly nights and mild, sunny days. September and October are warmer and dry with less foliage on the trees, but they offer better game viewing because of it.

PRIME-TIME TELEVISION SCHEDULE										MOVIES	SPORTS	KIDS	NEWS
	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30	12:00	12:30	
PBS	Rick Steves	All Creatures Great and Small: Between the Pages (N)			Unforgotten on Masterpiece (Season Finale) (N)		Professor T Attempt is made on a businessman's life.		Food Fix With Mark Hyman, MD	Healthy food system.			
CBS	60 Minutes	Driverless truck technology (N)	Big Brother	Two guests are put up for eviction (N)	Love Island	(9:01) (Season Finale) (N)			CBS4 News at 11pm (N)	Sports Desk (11:35)	Joel Osteen	Elevation With	
NBC	Family Game Fight!		America's Got Talent	Quarterfinals 1. Twelve performers compete live.			America's Got Talent	Quarterfinals Results 1.	NBC 6 News at 11pm (N)	NBC 6 Sports Final	Graham Bensinger	Operation Smile	
FOX	LEGO Masters	A weather-based challenge.	The Simpsons		The Great North		Bob's Burgers	Family Guy	Ch. 7 Wknd News at 10:00 (N)	Sports Extra	Weather Gone Viral	Tough Day at The Office	
ABC	America's Funniest Home Videos		Celebrity Family Feud	Deon Cole. Tisha Campbell. (N)	The Chase	Ken Jennings returns as the chaser. (N)	To Tell the Truth	(N)	Local 10 News	Sports Sunday (11:35)	SoFlo Taste	SoFlo Home Project	
PBS	Ella Fitzgerald: Just One of Those Things	(19. Biography) A profile of the singer's personal life. (NR)			This Land Is Your Land (My Music)	Evolution of modern American folk music.		Ken Burns: The National Parks	Making of the national parks series.			Life's Third Age	
UNM	Fútbol Mexicano	Primera *	¿Quién es la máscara?	Los personajes suben al escenario. (N)				Dr. Cándido	Noticias 23	Noticiero Uni	La jugada (N) (Live)		
MNT	Family Feud		NCIS: New Orleans	Lasalle faces another dead end.		NCIS: New Orleans	A dignitary's son disappears.	2 Broke Girls	Mike & Molly	Mike & Molly	Family Guy	Nanny Goats.	Family Guy
KON	Criminal Minds		Criminal Minds	Entropy.		Criminal Minds	Entropy.	Criminal Minds	Drive.		Criminal Minds	The Bond.	Criminal Minds
OW	black-ish	black-ish	DC's Legends of Tomorrow	Bored on Board Orbboard.	Wellington Paranormal	Dead Pixels	(N)	Local 10 News	Seinfeld	The Secret Code.	Two and a Half Men	Two and a Half Men	The King of Queens
TELE	Exatún	Estados Unidos (N)			John Wick	(14. Acción) Keanu Reeves. (R) ***			Noticiero	Noticias T	TYM Zona	Falco	
A&E	The First 48		The First 48	Bleeding Heart.	Invisible Monsters: Serial Killers	in America			The First 48	(11:04)	The First 48	(12:03)	